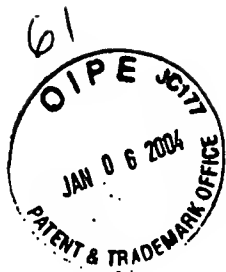


AF/1639



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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Patent Application of:

ALEX AZHAYEV, et al.

Appln. No.: 09/995,785

Filed: November 29, 2001

For: UNIVERSAL SUPPORTS FOR
OLIGONUCLEOTIDE SYNTHESIS

Atty. Docket No.: 005416.00004

Group Art Unit: 1639

Examiner: Maurie Garcia Baker

Confirmation No.: 9129

OK to
enter
MB
2/17/04

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

Honorable Commissioner for Patents

Box: AF

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action mailed October 7, 2003 (Paper No. 12), Applicants respectfully request entry and consideration of this Amendment. Please amend the above-captioned patent application as follows:

The specification, abstract, and drawings are not amended in this Paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the Listing of Claims, which begins on page 2 of this Paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 14 of this Paper.

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